EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court asked the Government to file the Counter Affidavit along with National Policy on Hawkers/Vendors formulated by the Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation in case No. CA4156-57/2002 with w.p. No. 335 to 337/2004, Mumbai Hawkers Union Vs Union of India and others. The Counter Affidavit has been filed alongwith a copy of the "National Policy on Urban Street Vendors". The overarching objective of the National Policy is to provide and promote a supportive environment for earning livelihood to the street vendors and to ensure congestion free and hygienic public places/ streets as well. The guidelines of the National Policy have been framed to ensure that the street vendors find due recognition for their contribution to the society, with appropriate provisions/support from the Government/other agencies so that they can lead a dignified life. A copy of the Policy was circulated on 11th February 2004 to all the States/UTs with the request to implement the guidelines, with or without change, to suit the local conditions with due respect to any court decisions which may impinge on the issue. All the States/UTs are being reminded to furnish the status of the action taken in the matter since then.

Statistical data on housing

2813. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether housing is one of the important indicator of economic health of the country;

(b) if so, whether a reliable and verifiable housing statistics is available in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether it is proposed to put in place an agency for preparing and monitoring such statistics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The housing statistics in the country is collected at both National and State level by office of Registrar General of India

(RGI); National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) and National Building Organisation (NBO). The RGI collects the information on housing statistics for both rural and urban sectors once in 10 years as a part of the Census exercise. The NSSO collects information on housing condition at National and State level for both rural and urban sectors once in 5 years on sample basis. NBO collects information on housing and building statistics in the country only from urban areas.

12.00 Noon

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Statement of allotments made under 5 per cent discretionary quota in accordance with the guidelines issued by Directorate of Estates

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Statement of Allotments made under 5% discrectionary quota, in accordance with the guidelines issued *vide* Directorate of Estates O.M. No. 12035/2/97-Pol, II (Pt. II), dated the 17th November, 1997 for the year ending on 31st December, 2004. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2612/05]

I. Reports and Accounts (2002-2003 and 2003-2004) of the National Film Development Corporation Limited (NFDC), Mumbai and related papers.

II. Report and Accounts (2000 to 2002 and 2004) of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) and related papers.

III. Report and Accounts (2003-2004) of the Allahabad Museum, Allahabad and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table

I.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956: